FLOOR PAD OPEN WEB DESIGN

During spray buffing and cleaning procedures, the open web design resists pad surface loading. The open webbed pad allows the dirt buffed off the floor to enter into the pad through the fibers instead of being forced to remain on the surface of the pad as happens with closely webbed pads. Closer webbed pads allow for premature surface load which inhibits the floor pad's ability to perform. The open web design dissipates heat evenly, excessive heat build up can damage fibers allowing for premature deterioration. An open webbed pad will also clean faster. Dirt which is allowed to enter a floor pad due to its open web, also is much easier to wash out. The open web design allows greater fiber contact with the floor, dirt passes to the center of the pad rather than staying on the surface. This allows pad fibers to remain in contact with the floor longer, rather than the dirt preventing the fibers from contacting the floor.

True it is cheaper to make a closed web pad - the process is much easier, but that hardly counts when a user is looking for efficient, long, pad life.

FIBER DENIER

Fiber denier - the denier (or gauge or thickness) of the fiber is most important but unfortunately sometimes a little harder to determine.

While all pads are made with some percentage of thinner fibers, long lasting pads are made with a larger proportion of heaver fibers to insure greater length of life. Obviously the thinner the fiber the less stretch, and like an elastic band when they stretch, they get even thinner and then snap. So heavier fibers will have a better chance of resisting this process for longer. Of course, heavier fibers which are specially made for the quality pad manufacturers do not come cheap. Thin fibers cost much less. It is a useful exercise to take, say, two competitive blue pads and tease out the fibers. Usually, the better quality one will have the heavy fibers and a greater proportion. There are even some pads with virtually no heavy fibers. These should be avoided, particularly in cleaning procedures.*

RESILIENCY

A floor maintenance pad must have the flexibility to reach depressions in the floor surface. We all know there are "peaks and valleys" in all floors and reaching these valleys is of concern here. Resiliency in a floor pad is related to the type of fiber and binder used, the choices are numerous.

Fiber - A fiber with bounce back capability should in some way be incorporated into all floor pads. The crimps or folds in the fiber also add to flexibility. Fibers that are totally straight tend to lay horizontally down within the pad and this inhibits flexibility.

Binder or Resin System - Must be elastic in nature with a slow methodical breakdown rate. Good elastic resin systems can be inhibited by cost cutting agents such as fillers. This produces a very stiff pad to the feel which will not be effective and should be avoided.

A good way to test a pad's resiliency is to pinch the edge of the pad between your thumb and index finger - the pad that bounces back quickly is a good bet!

PROPER AGGRESSIVENESS

We have always maintained that the least aggressive pad to perform the intended task should be used regardless of color. One should not be interested in "tearing up" a floor or removing excessive amounts of finishes that will lead to more labor dollars recoating (not to mention increased chemical cost). The floor maintenance pad should have the proper degree of aggressiveness that will work with and/or enhance the procedure, equipment, and chemicals used. The floor pad is not designed to do this job by itself.

Aggressiveness is built into the pad utilizing fiber, binder or resin and mineral abrasive. The specific quality and quantity used of these three ingredients will add up to a floor pad's ability to strip, scrub, clean, buff, or burnish. Mineral grit is an important ingredient that must be properly incorporated into your more aggressive pads. Some floor pad's aggressiveness depends entirely on mineral grit only. While we don't subscribe to this philosophy, it could be a logical way

to cut costs since the least expensive ingredient in a floor pad is the mineral grit (this assumes proper manufacturing techniques). Further, it demonstrates well initially, which does excite sales people.

Some problems exist however with this type manufacturing philosophy. Floor pads with an abnormally high degree of mineral grit will have a high degree of fall out, which will sacrifice the pad's performance and life. Excessive mineral grit fall out from a floor maintenance pad is a good sign of trouble.

REMEMBER IN FLOOR PADS
"THE LEAST AGGRESSIVE
THAT WILL GET THE JOB DONE"
SHOULD BE YOUR
RECOMMENDED CHOICE.

For more information contact your local Treleoni™ representative.

www.treleoni.com

1-803-505-2800

FLOOR PADS

What makes a good floor pad good?

Why is one pad better quality than another?

There are several reasons, all easy to understand and many of them recognizable with little care and close observation.